

What is Claimed is:

1. A method of making a joint in Sterling silver which includes using a silver solder or brazing alloy of the Ag-Cu-Zn family containing 10-30 wt% Cu, 8-15 wt % Zn, from 0.5 - 3 wt% Ge, optionally 0.05-0.4 wt % Si, optionally 1-3 wt% Sn, optionally 1ppm-0.3 wt% B, the balance being 55-77wt%, Ag, said solder being a colour match for said Sterling silver.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein said Sterling silver is of content about Ag 92.5 wt%, Cu 6.3 wt%, Ge 1.2 wt %.
3. The method of claim 1, wherein the silver solder or brazing alloy contains 1.5-2.5 wt % Ge.
4. The method of claim 1, wherein the silver or brazing alloy contains about 2 wt % Ge.
5. For use in the method of claim 1, a silver solder or brazing alloy of the Ag-Cu-Zn family containing 10-30 wt% Cu, 8-15 wt % Zn, from 0.5 - 3 wt% Ge, optionally 0.05-0.4 wt % Si, optionally 1-3 wt% Sn, optionally 1ppm-0.3 wt% B, the balance being 55-77wt%, Ag, said solder being a colour match for Sterling silver.
6. An alloy according to claim 5, which is in the form of rod, strip or wire.
7. An alloy according to claim 5, which is in the form of paste.
8. A silver solder or brazing alloy of the Ag-Cu-Zn family containing more than 70 wt % Ag and from 0.5 to 3 wt% Ge.
9. The alloy of claim 8, containing 1.0-2.5 wt % Ge.
10. The alloy of claim 8, containing about 1.5 wt % Ge.
11. The alloy of claim 8, further comprising 1-3 wt % Sn.
12. The alloy of claim 8, comprising about 1 wt % Sn.
13. The alloy of claim 8 containing 3 – less than 8 wt% Zn
14. The alloy of claim 8 containing 4 - 5 wt% Zn
15. The alloy of claim 8, further comprising 0.05-0.4 wt % Si.
16. The alloy of claim 8, comprising about 0.1 wt% Si.

17. The alloy of claim 8, containing about 75 wt% Ag, about 18 wt% Cu and about 4.5 wt% Zn, about 1.5 wt% Ge and about 1 wt% Sn.